

2.2.9 LIVESTOCK GRAZING

The legislation designating the NCA and Wilderness Areas provided that livestock grazing will continue where permitted at the time of designation subject to applicable laws, regulations and executive orders. Adjustments in grazing may occur in the future following site-specific evaluations that apply the requirements of those laws, regulations and executive orders.

Land Health Standards and the associated Guidelines for livestock grazing management (Appendix B) will be among the primary considerations during these evaluations.

Objectives

- To promote healthy sustainable rangeland ecosystems and maintain or restore public rangelands consistent with Land Health Standard indicators in conformance with the procedures in the Rangeland Health Standards handbook (H-4180-1).
- To provide forage suitable for livestock on a sustainable basis for the foreseeable future, consistent with other resource objectives and with public land use allocations.

Grazing Management

GRAZ-1: The current livestock grazing use authorizations (Table 2-4) will be maintained until evaluations identify the need for adjustments in livestock grazing practices to meet Land Health Standards or other objectives. Changes in livestock management will conform to regulations and land use plans. Monitoring, field observations, ecological site inventories, or other BLM acceptable data will support management changes.

Table 2-4 Livestock Grazing Allotments

Allotment	Total Acres	Percent in Planning Area	Class of Animals	AUMs Active Use
Bare	201,705	8.4	Cattle	13,308
Blue Wing	1,376,261	1.9	Cattle Sheep	14,057 6,060
Bottle Creek	139,388	0.1	Cattle Sheep	3,433 0 ¹
Buffalo Hills	483,725	23.4	Cattle Sheep	3,990 130
Deer Creek	30,851	29.8	Cattle	757
Denio	24,231	25.7	Cattle	1,542
Happy Creek	99,178	6.4	Cattle Sheep	3,723 0 ¹
Home Camp	146,119	0.9	Cattle	9,086
Jackson Mountains	375,796	41.0	Cattle Sheep	8,857 0 ¹
Leadville	57,110	51.0	Cattle	1,298
Long Valley	74,059	3.2	Cattle	2,655
Majuba	280,265	4.3	Cattle Sheep	1,813 1,512
Massacre Lakes	46,964	8.1	Cattle	3,215

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Allotment	Total Acres	Percent in Planning Area	Class of Animals	AUMs Active Use
Massacre Mountain	149,059	90.5	Cattle	5,823
Nut Mountain	71,348	16.7	Cattle	4,903
Paiute Meadows	176,396	46.6	Cattle	4,298
Pine Forest	142,706	20.6	Cattle Horses	9,625 75 ²
Soldier Meadows	341,936	79.6	Cattle	7,650
Wall Canyon (East)	40,806	27.1	Cattle	3,234

¹ Domestic sheep trailing authorized through the allotment, but no trailing AUMs included in grazing permit.

² Horse use authorized outside the planning area.

GRAZ-2: The class of livestock in allotments will not be changed by this plan. Domestic sheep trailing will be allowed in portions of the Buffalo Hills, Blue Wing–Seven Troughs, Jackson Mountains, and Majuba Allotments where it has been previously licensed.

GRAZ-3: Areas of the Black Rock Desert shown on Map 2-5 will remain unallocated for livestock grazing, except as noted in GRAZ-12. The ungrazed portion of the Massacre Mountain Allotment associated with High Rock Canyon and the Little High Rock portion of the Bare Allotment will not be grazed on a regular basis. Grazing in these areas may occur under an approved grazing prescription developed specifically to accomplish the objectives of the plan.

GRAZ-4: The Mahogany Creek Enclosure portion of the Soldier Meadows Allotment as shown on Map 2-3 will be excluded from livestock grazing.

GRAZ-5: Massacre Ranch will be included in the Massacre Mountain Allotment and may be available for livestock grazing as part of a plan for the Massacre Mountain Allotment that includes specific objectives and actions for the meadows and grazing management facilities at the ranch.

GRAZ-6: Existing authorized structural rangeland projects will be maintained where beneficial to resource values. New rangeland projects may be developed when consistent with achieving Land Health Standards and the objectives of the plan. Projects no longer needed to meet livestock and other resource management objectives will be removed and the sites restored.

*Hereford
cow on
Rangeland*



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GRAZ-7: All spring developments will be modified where necessary to maintain, improve or restore the biotic integrity of the spring system in accordance with BLM Technical Reference 1737-17. These spring developments will also be modified to provide water for wildlife at ground level adjacent to the spring source.

GRAZ-8: Authorizations of grazing use including multiple use decisions and activity plans will incorporate specific grazing management prescriptions (covering, but not limited to, timing, duration, intensity, and frequency of livestock use) that an evaluation showed will provide the best opportunity to meet the objectives of the plan and the applicable Land Health Standards.

GRAZ-9: Adjustments in livestock and/or wild horse and burro forage will be implemented in an equitable manner on the basis of monitoring data or site-specific resource evaluations. If monitoring data indicate that impacts on resources are occurring as a result of livestock, or wild horse or burro use, appropriate adjustments will be made to the specific class of use. In the absence of monitoring data, adjustments in available forage will be proportional to applicable livestock active animal unit months (AUM) and wild horse and burro AMLs.

GRAZ-10: The Stanley Camp Pasture within the Soldier Meadows Allotment as shown on Map 2-3 will be excluded from livestock grazing on a regular basis. Grazing in this area may occur under an approved grazing prescription developed specifically to accomplish the objectives of the RMP.

GRAZ-11: Livestock grazing within the fenced portions of the Soldier Meadow ACEC will be authorized when an evaluation process concludes that grazing is consistent with the resource management objectives for the ACEC.

GRAZ-12: The boundaries of the Buffalo Hills, Jackson Mountains and Paiute Meadows Allotments will be adjusted as shown on Map 2-5 to better conform to historical grazing patterns. No adjustment in permitted forage use will be made as a result of the boundary adjustments.

Note: Special Designations, Wilderness, Vegetation, Wildlife, Special Status Species and Wild Horse and Burro sections of the RMP contain additional decisions that may affect Livestock Grazing in the planning area.